THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The NCDC during March 1996 received a proposal from Govt. of Kerala alongwith a feasibility project report for setting up of an Ayurvedic Medicine Manufacturing Unit by the Kerala State Federation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Cooperatives Ltd., at an estimated cost of Rs. 110 lakhs.

(b) The project, for setting up of an Ayurvedic Manufacturing Unit involving a block cost of Rs.110.42 lakhs, is proposed to be implemented by the Kerala State Federation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The feasibility report submitted alongwith the proposal has been examined. The NCDC has informed the State Govt. that the report has not covered some of the vital aspects of the terms of reference while a few points have been inadequately covered. The list of points which were required to be covered as per the terms of reference prescribed by NCDC, have been communicated to the State Govt.

(c) Further Action on the proposal submitted by the State Govt. shall be taken by NCDC only after receipt of requisite modification in the report covering the agreed terms of reference.

[Translation]

Steamer Service between Calcutta & Silchar

3289. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start steamer service between Calcutta and Silchar; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). There already exists riverine cargo transport service between Calcutta and Karimganj/Badarpur through Bangladesh. This route is open to traffic for the period May-mid November every year and is closed for rest of the year due to non-availability of adequate draft. The stretch between Badarpur and Silchar in the river Barak is not navigable at present, as experienced by Central India Water Transport Corporation Ltd. There is no proposal for commencement of service between Calcutta and Silchar.

Admission in Navyug Schools

3290. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any quota for the children of the employees of New Delhi Municipal Council for admission in the Navyug Schools in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the number of such students in Navyug School in Laxmibai Nagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) According to the information furnished by the New Delhi Municipal Council there is no quota for wards of NDMC employees for admission to Navyug Schools in Delhi.

(b) Does not arise.

Appointment of Principals in Colleges of Delhi

3291. SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Union Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "panel mein nam nahin tha phir bhi niyukta kar diya pracharaya ne" appearing in the daily 'Rashtriya Sahara' dated October 27, 1996;

(b) if so, the fact thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to check such irregularities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A factual report on the allegations made in the news-items has been called for from the University and any further action in the matter would be possible after the same is received.

Treatment to Retired Officers & Jawans of Air Force

3292. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to make available treatment for heart diseases and Cancer free of cost by the courtesy of Air-men Wives Welfare Association to the retired officers and Jawans of Air Force and their family members;

(b) if so, the detail thereof and the amount proposed to be spent by the Union Government for the said work and the time by hospital for the purpose is likely to be set up;

(c) whether Government propose to set up any such hospital for the retired officers and jawans of Army and navy and their family members; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) to (d). Air force have set up a Super Speciality Veteran Hospital at